

[English]

Consumer Protection Act and MRTP Act

3528. SHRINIRMAL KANTICATTERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recommendations of the working group on consumer protection Act and MRTP Act; and

(b) the view of the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). The main recommendation of the working group are; to enlarge the scope of definitions of the word 'Consumer; 'Complaint', Services; restriction of role of lawyers in three tier redressal agencies envisaged in the Act; giving of more powers to redressal agencies; bringing of decisions of redressal agencies under Article 323B of the Constitution; prior approval of the MRTP Commission for any proposal to amalgamate/ Merger of two undertaking which may restrict competition in the market etc. The report of the working group will be discussed in the next meeting of the Central Consumer Protection Council which will make suitable recommendation to the Government for amending the Act.

Capital Funds Drawn by Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

3530 DR. ASIM BALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3165 on August 28, 1990 and state:

(a) whether Audit objection had been raised on the diversion of capital funds for

meeting the cash losses of the IDPL on certificates contrary to the facts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken against those found guilty of making wrong declarations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). The Indian Audit & Accounts Department (Office of the Principal Director of Commercial Audit and Ex-Officio, Member Audit Board), New Delhi had during the inspection of the accounts of the Corporation office of Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Gurgaon, for the period from October, 1989 to March, 1991, observed that the Management had diverted funds, released by the Government for capital expenditure during the years 1987-88 to 1989-90. The Audit Department, also observed that the diversion, according to the Managements, had to be made for making payments to the pressing creditors for supply and services, making statutory payments, meeting increased wage bill and increased tariff for electricity etc., as the company had been incurring heavy cash losses.

Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. had been incurring heavy cash losses over the year and because of acute shortage of working capital, meagre non-plan budgetary support, the company had no alternative but to temporarily fund a part of the cash loss by using capital funds which would be recouped once the capital restructuring of the company is approved.

Special cell to promote Japanese Investment

3531. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has agreed to set up

a special cell to promote investments in India recently; and

(b) if so; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN):(a) and (b). While addressing the 23rd joint meeting of the Japan- India business Cooperation Committees on 29. 1. 1992 at New Delhi; the Chairman Dr. Rokuro Ishikawa reportedly mentioned that the Committee had requested Japan external Trade Organisation (JETRO) to designate a new specialist to be posted at JETRO's office in New Delhi; The objective was to transmit information about potential Indian Investment opportunities to Japanese investment; Reportedly JETRO had agreed to take this step.

[Translation]

Super Bazars

3532. Dr. LA. BAHADUR RAWAL:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of branches of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar in North Delhi;

(b) whether the Government propose to open a branch of super Bazar / kendriya Bhandar at the outer ring road for the benefit of residents of newly built societies viz. Sansad Vihar, Parijat, Triveni West Enclave etc; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is proposed to be opened the and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):(a)

The Cooperative store Ltd. Delhi, popularly known as Super Bazar has on date 3 branches and Kendriya Bhandar has 4 branches in North Delhi.

(b) and (c). Super Bazar has stated that they will open branches subject to allotment of suitable accommodation by concerned allotment bodies of the Government at reserve price. Kendriya Bhandar has no proposal at present to open branches at the outer ring road.

Distribution of Consumers Commodities to Rural and Urban Areas

3533. SHRI NPENDRA NATH VERMA:
SHRI SATYPAL SINGH YADAV:
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANDAR RAWAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat, rice, sugar and edible oil being distributed to the consumers per unit in urban and rural areas under the Public Distribution System, State-wise;

(b) whether less quantity of consumer commodities are being distributed to the consumers per unit in rural areas compared to the people living in big metropolitan cities;

(c) if so, the rationale therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to supply adequate quantity of Essential Commodities to the States for distribution to the consumers in all rural as well as urban areas uniformly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):